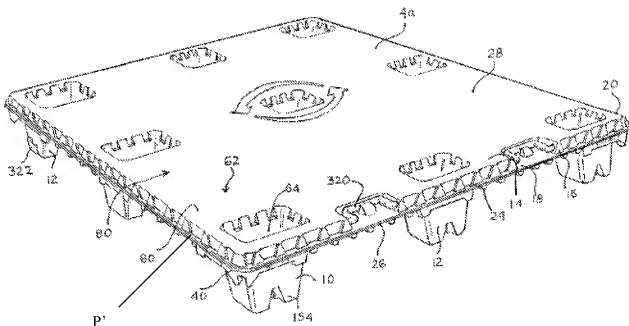


REMARKS

1-3 and 5-21 are pending. New claims 19-21 have been added. Claims 4 and 7 have been cancelled. No new matter has been added.

§102 Rejection

Claims 1-3 and 5-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by US Patent Publication 2001/0029874 to Muirhead. Claims 1 and 13 have been amended to recite, “a deck having an upper surface . . . wherein a perimeter of the upper surface defines a maximum perimeter of the pallet; . . . and the at least one projection extending/projecting outwardly . . . beyond the maximum perimeter of the pallet.” Muirhead does not disclose a projection that extends outwardly *beyond a maximum perimeter of the pallet*. Instead, both the projection (200a) and the projection (A”) of Muirhead are contained within a maximum perimeter (P”) of the pallet as shown below.



Therefore, the claimed invention is allowable over Muirhead and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 8 has been amended to recite, “the at least one projection formed integrally with the upper panel.” In Muirhead, the projection is not formed integrally with the upper panel of the pallet.

Therefore, claim 8 is not anticipated.

Applicant believes that no fees are necessary, however the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 50-1984 for any additional fees or credit the account for any overpayment.

Respectfully submitted,

/John E. Carlson/

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